

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claim 14 has been made dependent on claim 13. In addition, the claims have been amended for clarity.

Applicant believes that the above changes answer the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. 112, paragraph 2, rejection of the claims, and respectfully requests withdrawal thereof.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,615,175 to Gazdzinski in view of "Official Notice".

The Gazdzinski patent discloses a "Smart" elevator system and method, in which reader recognizes RFID tags carried by various passengers, and grants access to particular floors in response to the RFID tag information after password authentication.

With regard to the claim 1, 6, 13 limitation "said at least one processor being programmed such that when said confidence level is lower than a predetermined confidence level, said at least one processor receives input from said user interface defining a new resource and stores said new resource in said resource base or another resource base", the Examiner indicates col. 9, lines 45-65, and col. 6, line 25.

Applicant submits that while Gazdzinski discloses the conversion of analog speech to a compressed digital format which is

more "rapidly and easily manipulated and stored within a digital system" (col. 6, line 25), Applicant submits that this has nothing to do with that which is disclosed in Gazdzinski at col. 9, lines 45-65. In particular, that portion of Gazdzinski states:

"The user will then be prompted again to "Select (floor number) Floor?". If no matching entries are found, the sub-system will either notify the user to this effect, such as using an audio message such as "No matches found", or will display or announce the nearest approximation of the query based on a confidence rating. The confidence rating is calculated, for example, by the processor 106 running an algorithm; such confidence rating calculation algorithms are well understood, and indicate the quality of the match using a numeric value or index.

"As used herein, the term "match" includes any predetermined criteria for correlating one piece of data to another. For example, the building directory sub-system may be programmed to consider two pieces of data a "match" when all bits with the exception of the least significant bit (LSB) are identical. Many such criteria are possible, and all are considered to be within the scope of the invention disclosed herein. Furthermore, partial matches, such as when the user enters one word which is matched within several different entries of the directory file, may be used as the basis for an appended search, as described below."

As should be clear from the above, Applicant submits that Gazdzinski neither discloses nor suggests that the processor "receive input from said user interface defining a new resource and stores said new resource in said resource base or another resource base."

Claim 3 (and claim 8) states:

"said at least one processor is programmed such that when said confidence level is higher than said predetermined confidence level, said at least one

processor receives input from said user interface indicating a desirability of said at least one resource to said user and to update a preference data store responsive to said input."

In response thereto, the Examiner cites the above-noted col. 9, lines 45-65 as disclosing this limitation.

Again, Applicant submits that after a reading of this section, it should be apparent, particularly to one skilled in the art, that Gazdzinski neither discloses or suggests this limitation of the at least one processor.

Claim 4 states:

"said at least one processor is programmed such that when said confidence level is lower than said predetermined confidence level, said at least one processor identifies a resource not matching said query by substituting a term in said query that identifies one of an object associated with said reader, an object associated with an MRL, or another term and searches responsive to said query for a resource and, upon finding said resource, generates an output responsive thereto."

In response thereto, the Examiner cites col. 3, lines 19-43, which states:

"In a second aspect of the invention, the information and control system further includes a network interface that is coupled to the aforementioned input and display devices. In one embodiment, the network (e.g., Internet) interface is configured to provide rapid access to a variety of web sites or URLs of interest, such as those providing local weather, directions from the elevator to local points of interest, stock market quotations, breaking news headlines, etc. Preset functions are provided which enable the user to access, download, and display the desired information with a single actuation of the input device. A plurality of different input/display

devices are disposed within the smart elevator to allow multiple occupants to obtain information simultaneously.

"In a third aspect of the invention, the smart elevator includes one or more data terminals which are compatible with personal electronic devices (PEDs) so as to allow an occupant of the elevator to download a predetermined or adaptively determined "package" of data for later retrieval or use. Such data may include news, weather, financial data, listings of building tenants, firm resumes, parking rates, hours of operation, and the like. In one embodiment, the download of data is initiated automatically upon the insertion of the PED into the data terminal, thereby reducing the time necessary to download to a minimum."

col. 4, lines 5-20, which states:

"In a sixth aspect of the invention, an RFID tag and reader system is employed to uniquely identify occupants and provide them access to certain floors. RFID monitors with limited ranges are placed in certain locations near the elevator access points. These monitors interrogate the RFID tags and initiate a call signal for specific floor during after-hours operation. The user is then required to authenticate via a password input via the input device located inside elevator. The elevator system can optionally notify security (and/or the destination floor) of the individual's destination and identity, and maintain a record of access. The user may also optionally perform other functions such as lighting and environmental control from the elevator. The user's RFID tag may also be programmed to interface with the aforementioned PED data download device such that the tag pre-configures the system for download."

col. 9, lines 45-67, and col. 10, lines 1-12, which states:

[The directory file described above also optionally has a location graphic data file appended or linked thereto, which] "is retrieved from the storage device 108, 110 or the server 170. The location graphic file is displayed on the display device 113 as a floor map graphic 502 illustrating the location of the selected person or firm 504 on that floor in relation to the elevator cars 180, as illustrated in FIG. 5. For

example, the location of the individual or firm being sought is illuminated or colored, made to flash, and/or an illuminated arrow 506 is made to point to the desired location from the elevator. Numerous different and well understood visual and audible formats for providing the user with the desired information may be used with equal success, all of which are considered within the scope of the present invention."

Again, Applicant submits that after a reading of these sections, it should be apparent, particularly to one skilled in the art, that Gazdzinski neither discloses or suggests this limitation of the at least one processor.

With regard to claim 5 (and claim 10), which states "said term is a term characterizing said object associated with said reader", the Examiner cited Fig. 15, col. 20,, lines 9-42, which states:

"For multiple matching entries, the audible prompts are produced in a sequential, predetermined order (such as the numerical sequence number of the entries within the directory file). For example, the first matching entry (alphabetically) would be synthesized in the foregoing form, followed by the second entry, etc. Upon hearing the desired match in this voice activated embodiment, the user simply states "Stop", to choose the entry desired. At this point, a separate audio prompt is generated (such as "Select (floor number) Floor!") which prompts the user to either select the floor number associated with the matched directory item and terminate their session (such as by stating "yes"), or continue on with the next entry (such as by stating "no") until all entries are exhausted. The directory sub-system is programmed to store in memory 110 and "remember" previous files retrieved within a given user's session so as to not repeat the same selections during that same session. For example, if there are five "Smith" entries in the directory file, and the user enters the query "Smith", the sub-system will select a different "Smith" entry on each subsequent

user query during the same session until the correct Smith is located or all matching entries have been exhausted. In the present embodiment, a session is defined as the time period between two successive selections of the "Building Directory" function key 122, or the expiration of a predetermined period of time without a user input after selection of that function. The sub-system is also optionally programmed to allow the user to append defining information to the initial query statement to form a Boolean search statement. For example, if the first "Smith" selected by the sub-system is not the desired one, the user may then append the query by saying "ABC Corporation" or "John" in response to the next "Select (floor number) Floor?" query by the sub-system."

Applicant submits that a careful reading of the above section shows that Gazdzinski neither discloses or suggests that the term "is a term characterizing said object associated with said reader".

In view of the above, Applicant believes that the subject invention, as claimed, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicant believes that this application, containing claims 1-17, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by   
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